



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOLLISTER MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Hollister, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

John F. Stobaugh, 42, of Hollister, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to nine years and two months in federal prison without parole.

On Feb. 27, 2004, **Stobaugh** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Stobaugh** admitted that he was in possession of a loaded Mossberg 12-gauge pump-action shotgun on Aug. 2, 2002, in Taney County, Mo. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Stobaugh** has a 1997 criminal felony conviction for passing bad checks and a criminal felony conviction for being a fugitive after having failed to appear in court in 1997.

Law enforcement officers discovered the firearm during a search of **Stobaugh's** residence.

Stobaugh was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 12, 2003, in Springfield.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex C. Lewis. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Taney County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow